b) exposing the [substrate] <u>adsorbent</u> to the target analyte and to the agent under the elution condition [to allow] <u>that allows</u> binding between the target analyte and the adsorbent;

c) [detecting] <u>measuring</u> an amount of binding between the target analyte and the adsorbent by desorption spectrometry<u>, wherein desorption spectrometry comprises desorbing and ionizing the target analyte from the adsorbent with an energy source and detecting the desorbed and ionized target analyte with a detector</u>; and

d) [determining whether the measured amount is different than a control amount of binding when the substrate is exposed to the target analyte under the elution condition without the agent] <u>determining whether the agent modulates binding by comparing the measured amount of binding between the target analyte and the adsorbent in the presence of the agent and a control amount of binding between the target analyte and the adsorbent without the presence of the agent,</u>[;]

[whereby] a difference between the measured amount and the control amount [indicates] <u>indicating</u> that the agent modulates binding.

33. (Once amended) The method of claim 30<u>, wherein the agent is selected from a combinatorial library of agents and wherein the substrate comprises a plurality of adsorbents, the method further comprising</u> [for screening a combinatorial library of agents comprising] <u>exposing</u> each of a plurality of agents in the library to each of a plurality of the adsorbents.

Please add the following new claims.

-- 70. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the agent is a drug candidate.

71. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the agent is a drug candidate and wherein the target analyte comprises a protein and wherein the adsorbent comprises a ligand that binds to the target protein.